

Appl. No.: 09/808,553
Amdt. dated January 12, 2005
Reply to Final Office Action of October 19, 2004

REMARKS

Applicants have received the Final Office Action dated October 19, 2004, in which the Examiner (1) rejected claims 21-25 and 29-33 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as anticipated by Heddaya (U. S. Patent No. 6,622,157) and (2) rejected claims 26-28 and 34-36 as obvious over Heddaya in view of Kenner (U.S. Patent No. 6,112,239). In this Response, Applicants amend claims 21-22, 24, 26, 29, 30, 32 and 34. Based on the arguments and amendments stated herein, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are in condition for allowance.

In rejecting the claims under 35 USC § 103, the Examiner appears to have incorrectly taken the view that a system for accessing a third party data in a client-server computer network, such as the one disclosed in Heddaya, may be "simply" reversed so as to arrive at the invention now claimed, i.e. the storing of user-specific data as claimed in the present application. Applicants respectfully submit that this is not correct. At the same time, in an effort to expedite allowance of the application, amendments to place the application in condition for allowance are proposed.

Amended claim 21 now specifies, inter alia, the step of determining, based on a login operation performed by the user and a location of the first computer from which the login operation is performed, a second server in the network for storing user-specific data, the user sending a request to store user-specific data to the first server in the network, and redirecting the request to the second server for storing of the user-specific data at the second server.

Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 21 is clearly distinguished from a simple "reversal" of the systems disclosed in Heddaya and Kenner. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that nothing in what the Examiner refers to applicant admitted is prior art (see item 6 of the office action) provides any disclosure, incentive, or suggestion on how to modify the systems in the cited prior art, even if it was permissible to conclude that a "simple" reversal of the prior art systems would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skilled in the art.

In a further attempt to expedite allowance of this application, Applicants take this opportunity to briefly expand on the reasons why a simple reversal of the cited prior art systems would not result in a workable solution.

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There are two primary means of requesting for an action in a client-server computer network, namely GET, and POST. However, as will be explained in more detail below, the GET method does allow for redirection, whereas the POST does not.

A GET request for data such as the delivery of an image or file, can be easily redirected. The redirection occurs by sending a response back to the client's browser from a first server, the response "triggering" the client's browser to go to another server to get the data. This "triggering" is caused by the presence of a redirect request incorporated into the "header" of the response to the GET request by the first server.

On the other hand, a request to store a file, such as in a HTTP POST, will include the entire content of the file along with the call for action to store the file. Thus, the only "obvious" solution would be to have the first server send the entire content of the file back to the browser alerting the client/user to send it to another server. Importantly, the entire content would be "moved" in each communication between the server(s) and the browser. Clearly, this would be an unworkable/undesirable solution.

In contrast to this "obvious" solution, the present invention as defined e.g. in amended claim 21 determines, based on a login operation performed by the user and a location of the computer from which the login operation is performed, a second server in the network for storing user-specific data. Upon a request to store user-specific data, the request is redirected to the second server for storing of the user-specific data at the second server. In other words, a POST request can immediately contain the destination information because of the above mentioned determination step on login of the present invention. Therefore, the present invention provides an inventive solution, in which content does not have to be moved unnecessarily between the server(s) and the browser.

Similarly, claim 29 has been amended to incorporate features corresponding to the features discussed above with reference to amended claim 21.

As amended independent claims 21 and 29 are now in condition for allowance based on our above submission, we respectfully submit that dependent claims 22 to 28 and 30 to 36 are also in condition for allowance as being dependent on respective allowable main claims.

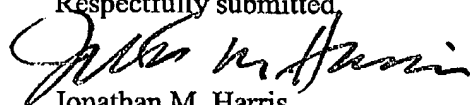
Reconsideration of the final rejection of claims 21 to 36 is respectfully requested in light of the proposed amendments.

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CONCLUSION

Given the various differences between the claimed inventions and the prior art, Applicants respectfully ask that the Examiner allow all the present claims and issue a notice of allowance in due course. If any fees or time extensions are inadvertently omitted or if any fees have been overpaid, please appropriately charge or credit those fees to Conley Rose Deposit Account Number 03-2769 and enter any time extension(s) necessary to prevent this case from being abandoned.

Respectfully submitted,



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